

REMARKS

Claim 11 has been rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kwok, U.S. Patent 5,280,276 in view of Gilbert, U.S. Patent 5,463,409, Vaghefi, U.S. Patent 6,429,851 and Tabata, U.S. Patent 5,355,762. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In the Examiner's Office Action, the Examiner has indicated that claims 4-6 and 10 have been allowed, and that claims 1-3 and 7-9 have been withdrawn from consideration as not being readable on the elected invention. The Examiner has maintained his rejection with respect to claim 11. As the Examiner will note, claims 1-3, 7-9 and 11 have been canceled from the present application and accordingly it is believed that the present application containing claims 4-6 and 10 is now in condition for allowance. It should be understood that the cancellation of claim 11 does not represent an abandonment of the subject matter of claim 11 but rather a means of expediting the allowance of claims 4-6 and 10 of the present application. Accordingly, the Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of claim 11 at a later date if it is desired. Also, the Applicant reserves the right to file a Divisional Application on non-elected claims 1-3 and 7-9 if desired by the Applicant.

Accordingly, it is now believed the present application is in condition for allowance and thus an early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, please contact Joseph A. Kolasch, Reg. No. 22,463, at the offices of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP.

Application No. 09/931,021
Amendment dated February 14, 2006
Reply to Office Action of October 19, 2006

Docket No.: 5253-0103PUS1

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), the Applicants hereby petition for an extension of one (1) months to February 19, 2006 in which to file a reply to the Office Action. The required fee of \$60.00 is enclosed herewith.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 15, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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